Community of Practice

27.10.21 14:00 Over Zoom *Chairs Agenda*

Topic- Beyond offending

Time	Action	Lead/Action
14:10-	St Mungo's and SHP	Rachel and Ruth and
14:30	Ogechi, Rachel, Ruth presentation will be circulated with these minutes.	Ogechi
	 In brief this provision is Provided in collaboration Works with individuals in and out of prison Do not work with those who are on remand Are referred to by probation officers The sooner the referral is made the better- so please support probation officers by reminding them of this provision Full details of this broad and exciting provision can be found in their powerpoint. 	ACTION: Nick will share slides and make introductions as requested.
	Notes from questions This is a new combined service since the disbandment of CRC Colleagues asked if the team would be happy to present at their services and the response was positive. Please also share slides that Nick will send round with colleagues.	
14:30- 14:50	Brent Council Singles team Manjit presented the new programme at Brent council single homeless services and a presentation will be circulated. In brief the service • Accommodation for prison leavers- o Must have low support needs and be able to manage Private rented accommodation [those with support needs that are too high for this project will be referred to other parts of the Local authority provision] o have served a custodial sentence in the last 12 months o Be eligible [access to public funds] o Able and willing to engage o Need eligibility documents- Prison license does not prove eligibility- needs to be birth certificate or passport. • Anybody can refer- including self-referral • Aiming to start in the next 4 weeks.	ACTION: Nick will share slides and make introductions as requested.
	Those referred will be provided • Emergency accommodation for 12 weeks • Support into private rented accommodation	

• Support from specialist housing officers

Notes from Questions

- Low needs does not mean low risk in terms of criminality. Thus, a
 person may have no support needs [for instance substance
 misuse] but has committed multiple crimes. This will not exclude
 them as long as they are able to manage a tenancy.
- Where will the PRS be?
 This scheme is aimed at any person who has a local connection in Brent. But where there is a fear of violence this should be carefully considered and discussed case by case. We must be careful to realistically managing expectations.
- Those with high support needs, will not be considered as part of this programme, but will be referred on to other options that are more suitable
- Colleagues asked for a clearer definition of what the low needs high risk might mean when circulating the document after the presentation.
- What is the support?
 The housing support officers will be mobile based and supporting at the temporary accommodation and referring to other appropriate agencies if needed.

They will also attend probation in Willesden and can visit some of the prisons to do some assessment early [likely over video link].

- The local authority has a well-established procurement team to support sourcing accommodation and it is appreciated that for some cohorts finding properties may be difficult. It is also clear that placements will be considerate of who else lives where.
- Homelessness applications, and duty to refer are fine. One can also email Manjit directly and she will help however she can.

From Manjit.Bance to Everyone:

thankyou everyone - please contact me for any further information manjit.bance@brent.gov.uk

14:50-15:10

Deep dive

• From you experience of working with those leaving prison, or any institution what are the biggest barriers that they face?

- What are some of the causal factors that we are told about?
- What can be done to address these?

 $\label{local_https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QDjnJfXVaYPprmEERbXmTP4TJnVuUjL6HZQMqlCJvQU/edit?usp=sharing$

This tool remains open- so please feel free to add to it. Some of the themes discussed in break out rooms included

- The importance of a collaborative approach and better joint working processes
- Clearer understanding of roles- for instance ex offender prison leads
- The need for training for all
- Barriers included limited understanding, consideration, and diagnosis of mental ill health, especially PTSD; service thresholds being too high or low, criminogenic elements, language.

15:15- **PLIAS**

15:35

Kingsley talked to us about the work that PLIAS do and the presentation will be shared.

In brief PLIAS are

- Charity works primarily with ex-offenders, in Brent or other part so West London. Focus is resettlement into employment and training through three main projects
 - Youth project- 16–25-year-olds who are at risk of offending-looking towards going to training, employment
 - Female at risk of offending or have offended- those experiencing domestic violence.
 - Adult servoces-16-65 ex offender with cautions or conviction.
 Provide information, advice, training and employment. Can do CSCS course on site and completed in 1 day.

Self-referral or referral from other agencies accepted Employment offered will always be for a minimum of 1 year contract

From questions and discussion

It is important that one can be clear and manage expectations. Though the service works hard to find opportunities that meet the needs and wished of the individual, they will also be open and realistic about the barriers. PLIAS feel that this is important, as constant rejections can become traumatising and be a precipitator for reoffending.

Kingsley talked about UC and top up for those on low income and how calculations are considered when supporting individuals into employment.

Air Network

Marlon and Sam presented the work of the AIR network and the slides used will be shared with these minutes.

In brief, across Brent AIR network

Kingsley

ACTION: Nick will share slides and make introductions as requested.

Marlon and Sam

ACTION: Nick will share slides and make introductions as requested.

15:35-15:55

- Have two main teams; Accelerated Support team and the violence and vulnerability team. Combined they have worked with over 200 Brent young people over the last year.
- The network partners with multiple agencies to provide services to all in need
- The service provided is a mentoring programme that works closely with both the young people and their families to support, inform and educate.
- Sports and gym access are a tool for engagement and support
- Colleague shared some very impressive stats that illustrate the impressive impact of the service [see slides]

Questions and discussion

Colleagues were very impressed by the service and the presentation. One colleague used to work with the service and expressed how fantastic they are.

The important of collaboration to the service was very clear and a very positive example of when and how this works to improve outcomes for all.

One piece of work that the service does is with a mental health service out of borough, in Enfield. There is a big crossover with offending and mental health. Marlon will share information on exiting processes with those who would like to know more.

From Marlon Boateng to Everyone:

Hi, if you leave before our presentation.. Please visit our website www.airnetwork.co.uk and my email address is marlon@airnetwork.co.uk - Thank you. Marlon Boateng - Director of Operations

15:55 Questions and AOB

-16:00

Asked if we could create a single document that list the presentations and presenters for ease of access to the slides and documents.

Re the December CoP based on Winter and Christmas it was suggested that Public health are approached to speak to update on Covid as it is expected that this will once again be a part of Christmas 2021.

Future themes include

Christmas and Winter [December 8th 2021] Domestic abuse Gang involvement Health **ACTION**: Nick will act on both

Accommodation options Employment	
Please share any suggestions, requests, or ideas for presenters. As well as any ideas on how the forum can be improved or cofacilitated.	